

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 FEA-02 DRC-01 /193 W
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P R 140435Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1224

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 3761

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, VS, CB, ENRG

SUBJECT: GVN-GRK OIL DRILLING DISPUTE

REF: SINGAPORE 3736; PHNOM PENH 12306

1. STRAITS TIMES CARRIED REPORT ON SEPT 14 FROM UNIDENTIFIED SOURCE THAT THE GLOMAR FOUR QUOTE STARTED MOVING NORTH FROM THE DISPUTED AREA IN THE GULF OF THAILAND AT ABOUT 4 PM YESTERDAY UNQUOTE. SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE RIG WOULD QUOTE POSITION ITSELF AT A POINT 60 TO 70 MILES AWAY IN A NON-DISPUTED AREA PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM ELF UNQUOTE. THE REPORT SAID THAT SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WERE BEING MADE BY ELF TO FLY THE CREW, SIX OF WHOM ARE SINGAPOREANS, BY ROTATION TO SINGAPORE.

2. ANOTHER SOURCE USED IN SAME REPORT, IDENTIFIED SIMPLY AS QUOTE FRENCH SOURCES UNQUOTE, SAID QUOTE THE CON-

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SORTIUM WAS TAKING EVERY PRECAUTION TO SAFEGUARD THE LIVES

OF THE RIG'S CREW UNQUOTE. THE STORY IS CONSTRUCTED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE FOLLOWING WOULD ALSO SEEM TO BE FROM FRENCH SOURCES. QUOTE THE DECISION TO MOVE THE RIG WAS TAKEN AROUND NOON BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ELF AND GLOBAL MARINE...WHO WERE ON THE SPOT UNQUOTE.

3. EMBASSY UNABLE CONTACT GLOBAL MARINE SEPT 13. GLOBAL MARINE EXECUTIVE SEPT 14 IN DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF CONFIRMED ABOVE NEWS STORY AND STATED RIG IS NOW ON NEW LOCATION DESCRIBED AS LATITUDE 10 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 54 SECONDS NORTH, LONGITUDE 102 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 13.21 SECONDS EAST. GLOBAL CONSIDERS THE OLD WELL TO BE COMPLETED AND PROBABLY WILL NOT RETURN FOR ADDITIONAL DRILLING EVEN IF POSSIBLE AT SOME LATER DATE. CRONK

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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